



Red River Watershed Management Board

Meeting Highlights – August 21, 2018

1. **River Watch Funding** – An updated funding agreement and resolution were approved by the Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB) Managers to provide funding to the International Water Institute (IWI) for the River Watch Program. Funding approved is \$125,000 per year for the Program, which has been funded by the RRWMB for several years. IWI Executive Director Chuck Fritz was in attendance and provided additional details about the River Watch Program
2. **Red River Basin Commission (RRBC) Funding** – A funding commitment for \$12,500 was approved by the RRWMB Managers for the RRBC to review the Long-term Flood Solutions Report from 2011. RRBC Executive Director Ted Preister was in attendance and provided additional details about the request and other potential funding partners.
3. **RRWMB Legislative Priorities** – Recommendations from the RRWMB Legislative Committee were presented to the RRWMB Managers for the 2019 Minnesota Legislative Session regarding funding and policy issues. The Committee will be working over the next four months to further refine the recommendations for priorities with input from member watershed districts.
4. **Audit** – The 2017 audit was presented to the RRWMB Managers. Brian Opsahl from Brady, Martz, and Associates presented the 2017 audit to the RRWMB Managers and indicated that the results were standard and similar to previous years. For a copy of the audit, please contact the RRWMB office.
5. **Internal Controls** – An Internal Controls document was approved by the RRWMB Managers and input on the document was also received from the Auditing firm during the development of the document. Information was also drawn upon from Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts Watershed Handbook and the League of Minnesota Cities.
6. **Reports** – Several written reports were provided by the Wild Rice Watershed District, Red River Retention Authority, Red River Basin Commission, IWI, RRBC, and other RRWMB partners and stakeholders.
7. **Tour** – The RRWMB Managers toured the proposed Middle River Subwatershed Flood Damage Reduction Project, which will provide flood protection for the City of Newfolden. Officials from the City of Newfolden and the Middle-Snake-Tamarac Watershed District also participated on the tour. In addition, the RRWMB toured the City of Thief River Falls Westside Flood Damage Reduction Project and the Black River Flood Impoundment Project that will be located southwest of Thief River Falls. Officials from the City of Thief River Falls and Red Lake Watershed District participated on the tour.
8. **Upcoming Meetings:**
 - Next RRWMB Board Meeting – September 18, 2018, Wild Rice Watershed District, Ada, MN.
 - Red River Basin Commission Fall Meeting and Tour – September 5 and 6, 2018, Moorhead.
 - International Red River Board Meeting – August 28 and 29, 2019, Detroit Lakes
 - Big Iron – September 11, 12, and 13, 2018, West Fargo Fairgrounds